

# business recycling solutions

Recycling – Good for Your Business, Good for the Environment

A Publication of the Sunnyvale Commercial Recycling Program



## Local Focus

### Green Businesses Continue to Grow

In June, four businesses, **Labcyte Inc.**, **Pine Cone Lumber**, **PowerPrint** and **Sports Basement**, joined the six other Sunnyvale businesses that have received Green Business certification! Information about what these businesses are doing to be successful while preserving the natural environment at the same time will be included in this and future editions of Business Recycling Solutions.

#### Labcyte

Labcyte ([www.labcyte.com](http://www.labcyte.com)), which employs over 50 employees at its Sunnyvale location, offers ultra-



“Our internal Green Business programs are a natural extension of the advantages of the products we provide to the life science R&D community”, said Dr. Elaine Heron, Chief Executive Officer of Labcyte. “The users of our Echo(tm) 550 and 555 liquid handling systems report saving \$100,000 to \$300,000 annually through reduced amounts of plastic consumables and solvents.”

low volume liquid handling systems that move liquids with sound. These systems are themselves environmentally friendly in that they provide researchers in the pharmaceutical industry with a tool that greatly reduces plastic waste and hazardous solvent waste.

In order to become certified in waste reduction, water and energy conservation and pollution prevention, Labcyte’s environmental actions include:

Reducing paper waste by faxing directly from the computer and making double-sided copying standard practice

Reusing cardboard, packaging, pallets and wooden boxes for shipping items

Recycling office paper, cardboard, food & beverage containers, metal, pallets, and electronics

Adopting an environmental procurement policy that addresses packaging waste reduction and buying recycled products

Installing T-8 lamps to reduce electricity usage

Installing new high efficiency toilets

Using recycled water for landscaping

Switching to Green Seal certified cleaning products

To find out more about the Green Business Program, contact Gretchen Hayes, Santa Clara County Green Business Specialist, at (408) 441-4329 or visit <http://greenbiz.sccgov.org>.

## UPCOMING EVENTS



### California Resource Recovery Association Annual Conference

**Aug. 6 – 9**

Fairmont Hotel, San Jose

Visit [www.crra.com/2006conf](http://www.crra.com/2006conf) for details on the Sustainable Business Workshops and business session track.

### Business Hazardous Waste Drop-off Events

**Aug. 18 • Sept. 15 • Oct. 20**

Qualifying businesses may participate by appointment only.  
(408) 299-7300  
[www.hhw.org](http://www.hhw.org)

### Build It Green Home Tour

**Sunday, Oct. 1**

10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Santa Clara County

Visit [www.builditgreen.org](http://www.builditgreen.org) for details.

**Business Recycling Solutions is available online at**  
[www.sunnyvalerecycles.org](http://www.sunnyvalerecycles.org)

Editor: Julie Benabente,  
Resource Management Specialist,  
City of Sunnyvale

Graphic Design: Studio eM,  
(650) 962-9200

Product and company listings should not be construed as an endorsement by the City of Sunnyvale.

Please send all comments and questions to:  
Commercial Recycling Program,  
P.O. Box 3707, Sunnyvale, CA 94088-3707  
(408) 730-7484, TDD (408) 730-7501.

Or email: [jbenabente@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us](mailto:jbenabente@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us)

# Towards Sustainability

## Local Organizations (Part III)

### Pacific Industrial and Business Association

The Pacific Industrial and Business Association (PIBA) provides educational programs to link the community with representatives from the private sector, government, and academia to exchange ideas, concerns, information and best organizational practices. PIBA's Program Development Committee

provides seminars, workshops and meetings on subjects of vital interest to the Bay Area sustainability, environmental, health, and safety community in order to help businesses leverage their information resources and develop best business practices to benefit the Bay Area community at large.

PIBA's past business sustainability workshops have covered topics such as:

Assessing your company's progress toward sustainability

Sustainable business practices

Policy trends and issues

To learn more about PIBA and upcoming events, visit [www.piba.org](http://www.piba.org), call (650) 965-2436 or email [piba@piba.org](mailto:piba@piba.org).



See the insert in this edition of **Business Recycling Solutions** for information on the services and resources that are available at no charge from the City of Sunnyvale to assist Sunnyvale businesses in reducing their waste.

## Your Inquiries

**Q** A City of Sunnyvale Industrial Waste Inspector came to my business for an inspection. Who are these inspectors, what types of businesses do they visit, and why?

**A** Industrial Waste Inspectors work in the Environmental Division of Public Works at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. The inspectors enforce the local sanitary sewer and stormwater ordinances, as well as State and Federal wastewater regulations. These regulations protect the sewer systems, the wastewater treatment plant, and the S.F. Bay from harmful discharges of pollutants.

If a business generates waste or wastewater as part of its process, an inspector will visit to check compli-

ance. Some businesses require a permit to discharge wastewater to the sanitary sewer. An inspector makes this determination based on the business category and activities performed.

Industrial Waste Inspectors inspect a wide range of businesses in Sunnyvale. Here are a few types of businesses regulated and why:

**Restaurants** – Inspected annually to ensure grease traps are installed and



properly maintained; also to ensure that no restaurant waste or trash has the potential of entering a nearby storm drain.

**Dental offices** – Inspected annually to verify Best Management Practices are being followed that reduce amalgam / mercury discharges to the sewer.

**Significant industries such as metal finishing, semiconductor, and pharmaceutical manufacturing** – Inspected at least annually to verify pollutant limits and compliance with more complex regulations.

For more information, call an Industrial Waste Inspector at (408) 730-7270.

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Wastewater Inspections at Businesses

Local Sustainability Organizations

Green Businesses Continue to Grow

Inside

PRSR STD  
US Postage  
PAID  
Sunnyvale, CA  
Permit No 112



business recycling

City of Sunnyvale Recycling Program  
P.O. Box 3707  
Sunnyvale, CA 94088-3707